the Order *of* Malta

Federal Association, U.S.A.

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

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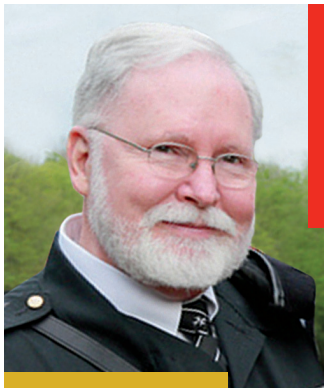
Front cover:

At the Lourdes Pilgrimage, the Federal Association gathers to light the "Pilgrimage Candle" that burns throughout the week near the Grotto.

Back cover:

The Grotto at Lourdes at night

President's Message



Dear Confreres:

It gives me great pleasure to present to you the 2012 Annual Report of the United States Federal Association of the Order of Malta. It was a year of both change and solid advancement for our Association. This Report is designed to give you an overview of both facts and faces of the Federal Association as we serve Our Lords the Poor and the Sick in many wonderful ways.

Just as the Order lives one week each year "in convent" during the Pilgrimage at Lourdes, we work together "in community" during the rest of the year with our fellow dames, knights, chaplains, candidates, auxiliaries, spouses and friends. It is not too much to say that it is a foretaste of the Kingdom of Heaven. To paraphrase Msgr. Brouwet, the new Bishop of Tarbes and Lourdes, the salvation to which we are called is not an individual salvation. The fraternity between and among women and men can only be achieved in the recognition of a common paternity, that of God. Our liturgies and events: Formation Day; the Feast of St. John the Baptist; Investiture Weekend; our Healing Masses; our Mass for the Right to Life; Masses for our Deceased; our monthly Masses; our Defense of the Faith Forums; our regional activities, and most especially, the Lourdes Pilgrimage, itself, are all designed to draw us away from separation, isolation, and enclosure within ourselves. This worship and work, shoulder to shoulder, is surely the wellspring of our spirituality and ultimately of our salvation.

This Report covers the structure that makes these activities possible beginning with finances and then moves on to such items as grants, membership, recognition, memorialization of our departed confreres, and our methods of support. It is transparent and as thorough as we can make it, but if you have questions beyond what is offered here, we shall do our best to provide you with answers. Your continued support on every level is essential to the vitality of the Association. The funds raised through our Annual Appeal are the very life blood of our Association. These moneys go, through the rigorous and objective distillation of our Grants Committee, to many charitable projects throughout our regions, and also to support our Defense of the Faith projects through the good work of that Committee. I cannot overemphasize how important it is that every Member of our Association contributes to the Annual Appeal.

This next year promises to be both challenging and rewarding. We have already celebrated the 900th Anniversary of our Order's papal chartering. We are the world's oldest Christian charity by far. We have a new pope. Not too far ahead is the Order's 5-year Vision Planning Session in Rhodes and then the Chapter General Meeting where many new Order leaders are elected. The activities of our own part of the Order are no less challenging and exciting here in our own country. We have work to do, and our motto is our mission: Defense of the Faith and Service to the Poor. I hope that you will continue your wonderful support of this mission in the year to come.

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With warmest confraternal regards,

Geoff Gamble

Geoffrey Gamble

President

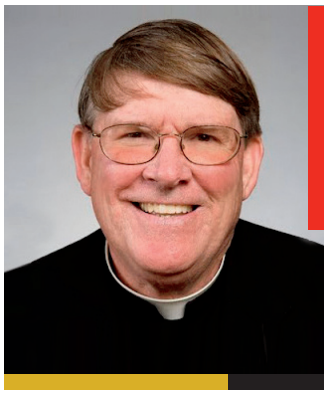
From the Chaplain

It's been an exciting few months for all of us who love the Lord! Not only have we celebrated the wonder of Easter and are enjoying Pentecost, this year we have seen the surprise retirement of Pope Benedict XVI and the election of Pope Francis as the new Vicar of Christ. The Holy Spirit has guided our Cardinals to choose a leader who is humble, simple in his love for others and so dedicated to the poor. He gives a sermon every day by the way he lives and, in the image of St. Francis, preaches more by what he does than by what he says. It is an exciting time for our church. In the midst of this season of the Holy Spirit, we celebrate the gift of a brand new leader who has already inspired us by his great devotion to the church and his love for the poor.

This annual report helps us to look back on the accomplishments and significant achievements of the Order this past year. We see expanded projects, new apostolates and wonderful leadership under our new president, Geoff Gamble, his officers and the Board. Hopefully we have seen an advance in the ministries of the Order at the regional level as well. As in most things, our growth happens not only through what takes place at the national and regional levels but more importantly, it is in our own local efforts that we find our fulfillment as members of the Order of Malta.

I think the same is true in our spiritual lives. We are proud members of the Church and proud to be active in the work of the Order, but we must ask ourselves, on a personal level, how our participation has enhanced our own spiritual journey. What is happening in our own day to day love for the Lord? Are we able to sense the Lord calling us? Are we able to respond completely and clearly to whatever he asks? That is a challenge that I face and that I'm sure you face as well. I can be a priest as part of a large Archdiocese and even a pastor of a large parish, but when I go to my eternal reward, there won't be questions about what church I led, what Order I belonged to or what I accomplished on behalf of the Church. The Lord will look at me and immediately know about my relationship with him. He will immediately sense how much I love him and recognize all I have done pales in my response to one basic question: "Do you love me?"

I want to be a member of the Order because it strengthens my spiritual journey. I love being a chaplain because I enjoy the inspiration received from so many, chaplains and lay members alike. I see the Order at work in so many different ministries on behalf of the most needy in our midst. Our trip to Lourdes each year reminds us of the very reason we said "yes"! We meet Jesus in the service of our beloved malades. All of that said, ask yourself these questions: Are you closer to Jesus today than you were at this time last year and more importantly are you closer to Jesus now than when you became a member of the Order? Has your growth continued? Has it changed your heart? Has it become even more pronounced? Can you recognize the Lord, moving, acting, and changing you right before your eyes?



This annual report looks in a macro fashion at all the Order does and continues to do. How proud we are to be members. It should also challenge us to take a very close look at ourselves, our personal journey, our continued growth and our commitment. This annual report speaks of great successes in the bigger picture but reminds us that what really counts is what happens to us personally, in our own hearts and souls. This report gives us a chance for us to look at ourselves and realize that God works through the Order of Malta but also works through and in us. May that work of the Lord continue all throughout the year to come.

Msgr. John J. Enzler

Magistral Chaplain and Chaplain to the Board of Directors

Treasurer's Report

Valencia Camp visits a resident of Malta House in Washington, DC.

The Federal Association made good progress in its financial position during the year ended December 31, 2012. Continuing the trend evident last year, we witnessed a marked increase in participation in the Annual Appeal with a 12% increase in the total dollars received on a comparable appeal to date basis. The average gift remains roughly at the $1,325 level. That being said, there is still room for improvement in order to reach our long-standing goal of 100% member and candidate participation. Similarly, there are now eighty-three members in the Blessed Gerard Society of members who have included the Order in their estate plans. As we celebrate the 900th anniversary year of our founding, we hope that each of you will consider testamentary gifts to the Federal Association as you review your affairs with your advisors.

Realized and unrealized gains of almost $200,000 in our investment portfolios allowed the Association's net assets to increase by over $164,000 for the year versus a decline of $75,000 in 2011. Importantly, during 2012 we fully incorporated adherence to the US Conference of Catholic Bishops investment guidance into our managed portfolios.

The accompanying table provides highlights of our financial status at year end. The full audited financial report is available for your review on the Association web site.

— Thomas E. Weiford
Treasurer

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Financial Highlights—2012

SUPPORT AND REVENUE 2012

Dues	$980,081
Annual Appeal	$789,128
Domestic/International Programs	$69,611
Other Support	$25,560
Lourdes Pilgrimage	$744,949
Investiture	$131,315
Spiritual Activities	$34,261
Investments & Other Income	$158,201
Total Support and Revenues	$2,933,196

EXPENSES 2012

Operations/Administration	$711,903
Lourdes Pilgrimage	$764,789
Investiture	$144,232
Assessments to the Order of Malta	$235,461
Committees other than Grants	$69,122
Spiritual Activities	$45,068
Total Expenses Excluding Grants	$1,970,575
Increase in Net Assets—Operating	$962,621
Grants Committee Expense	$995,960
Less Investment Gains—Realized and Unrealized	$197,374
Total NonOperating Activities	$798,586
Increase in Net Assets—Total	$164,035

GRANTS PROGRAM 2012

Annual Appeal	$789,128
Domestic/International Programs	$69,611
Carryover from 2011	$96,639
Total Grants Program Revenue	$955,378
Grants Program Expenses	$995,960
Net Grants Program Expenses over Revenue	-$40,582

INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS 2012

Operating Account	$9,714
Malta House	$134,774
Lourdes Fund	$978,710
Blessed Gerard Fund	$2,481,567
Total Investment Accounts	$3,604,765

Committing to Serving Our Lords the Sick and the Poor

Federal Association members answered the call to administer to the needs of the sick and the poor in expanded numbers in 2012, continuing our involvement with the other two associations in rebuilding New Orleans, increasing spiritual activities and emphasizing the defense of the faith in renewed ways. We also grew our membership, investing 42 new Knights and Dames and accepted 59 candidates into formation for the coming year, with notable growth coming from the Southern and Western parts of our Association. Our membership actively engaged in their communities, as these highlights from the past year show. Thank you to all our Hospitallers for their stewardship and especially to our three new leaders, Paul David of Lafayette, Pat Fallon of Syracuse, and Dorothy Zolandz of Washington DC.

Thank you to all our Hospitallers for their stewardship and especially to our three new leaders.

A heartfelt thank you to Kathy Mezzalinqua who was our Syracuse hospitaller for six years, and Dan Boulingny who was the first hospitaller for Lafayette and served six years. Thank you both for your great service.

In my first year as the Association Hospitaller, I thought it would be good to share these ideas, and invite your help and counsel as we move forward. I personally welcome each and every suggestion, and you should feel free to offer ideas or opinions through your local Hospitaller. We meet at least twice a year where we discuss input from the membership, and will be working to increase the transparency between the Hospitallers, and our members, in several ways. For example, we publish an agenda of upcoming meetings in the Order of Malta Moment for our members to comment through our Hospitallers on what you would like to have discussed at our meetings. This allows members to comment on the agenda and have issues they want discussed to be included on the agenda. Moreover, each month a region is featured in the Order of Malta Moment telling about its signature project.

Our regions are each unique, and function in an entrepreneurial fashion to serve their communities' needs and defend our faith. We continue to focus on deepening *Spirituality,* performing *Good Works,* and growing our *Membership* in meaningful ways. And of course, when we focus first on spiritual formation, our vocation to help others naturally follows. I encourage everyone to visit other regions, build stronger relationships and knowledge, and thus contributing to making our Malta family stronger.

In this report you will find a few highlights and examples from throughout our regions of the wonderful activities that fulfill our mission as Knights and Dames.

— Bob Signorelli
Hospitaller

Hospitaller Highlights

Hospitaller Highlights

- Annointing of the Sick Masses, Celebrations for the Feast of St John the Baptist, days and nights of Reflection, Masses for the Sanctity of Life and in honor of our Deceased members were heartedly conducted in all of our regions. These are great ways to connect with your region, come together in prayer and recognition of mission and advance the cause of our Lords, the sick and the poor.
- Many regions worked this year to build the regional committee structure that will, in the longer term, increase the number of projects and members active in their regions. Chairpersons were recruited to assist the Regional Hospitaller in implementing Spirituality, Defense of the Faith, and Auxiliary recruitment.

A number of our regions have continued their support of the New Orleans Homebuilding Program, an effort that began in 2006. During this 6th year of assistance, 65 Federal Association members, families and friends participated.

Helping Those in Need

- Members of the Order from Washington DC to Memphis volunteer each month in supporting the Missionaries of Charity. In Washington members pray with residents and serve food along side the sisters. In Memphis, volunteers administer to the needs of the women and children's shelter.
- Greater Washington, DC area members engage throughout the year with the young mothers and children who are cared for and educated through St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families in Hyattsville near the pastoral center.
- The Solidarity School / the Hispanic Mission has been, for 10 years, the signature project in Atlanta. Volunteers plan and produce the annual Christmas and Graduation Celebrations for the students and families. Throughout the years the members of Malta have painted rooms, set up the library, installed computer systems, cleaned the playground and continue to read to the students throughout the week. Through a Malta grant, a van was donated to transport the students the members are currently working to set up a Medical Program for students and their families to replace the semi monthly visits of the St Joseph's Hospital Mercy Mobile van organized several years ago.
- The Charlotte Region and Triad area provide **shelter for homeless men** during the winter providing hot supper, social time, and 2 Knights or candidates sleeping overnight with them. In the morning a hot breakfast and a bag lunch is provided. The Order also supports priests and brothers, with headquarters in Jamaica, focus on those in most need wherever they are. An area near Charlotte is their first mission to a developed country.
- Altanta is raising funds for the **Advice & Aid Pregnancy Center** and helped grow the Center's budget. Their donations have helped secure a sonogram machine to help educate the clients and ultimately save the lives of babies and establish a Hispanic community program in addition to the traditional communities served by the Center.

— Jeanne Allen

- Columbus, Ohio members participated in a service project at the Kinder Women's Care Center, building shelves in a newly converted storeroom and sorting baby clothes to be stored on those shelves.
- Northern Virginia members meet twice a month with our friends at L'Arche, a community for the developmentally delayed and those who serve them, in residence at Arlington, VA.

Feeding the Poor

- Syracuse has at least 6 **pancake breakfasts** a year where we serve the poor in one of the most poverty stricken areas in Syracuse.
- The Kansas City Chapter began underwriting the cost of and serving dinner to the poor, at **St. James Food Kitchen** on every 5th Friday. Members assisted in the annual St. James Place Food Kitchen "T-shirt and BBQ Dinner" for the poor with over 500 being served.
- At the 'Our Lady of Guadalupe **Home for Unwed Mothers**, run by the Sisters of Charity, every Friday, several Dallas area Dames prepare a home cooked meal in their home for twelve and serve the mothers dinner. Every Saturday morning several Knights, Dames and volunteers bring a hot meal to a vacant lot in South Dallas and feed men, women and children. The numbers can vary week to week from forty to eighty and some days, over one hundred. In 2012 over 3,000 meals were served!
- In Chicago, the soup kitchen ministry is ongoing at St. Thomas of Canterbury Church on Chicago's north side every third Tuesday. The **Mission Outreach** is another ongoing ministry where medical supplies and gently used equipment are sorted, package and shipped to needy countries. A new project this year was with the Wisconsin group which collected a box truck full of crutches, canes, walkers and wheel chairs from local area hospitals to ship to Mission Outreach. At **Our Lady of the Angels Mission** on the west side of Chicago, over 1000 people were served lunch and for six years the Order's members have been involved in the clean-up and restoration of this parish.
- The Houston Region's signature project is the Catholic Charities' Mamie George Community Center, which has been remarkably successful in feeding the needy throughout the community. Volunteers also serve Monday through Thursday every week at **St. Martha's Kitchen** in Houston's 2nd Ward. The Kitchen serves meals daily Monday through Friday to an average 1500+ persons weekly. It is managed by the Sisters of the Divine Providence.
- Hartford members support 130 families through the local Malta Food Pantry, an outreach of Malta House of Care which provides for an extraordinary mobile health clinic.
- Montgomery County and Washington DC members volunteer each month to package and distribute food packages at SHARE, a program started by Order of Malta members 15 years ago.

Members of the Baltimore Region Order of Malta currently cook and serve dinner monthly to approximately 150 women and children at My Sisters Place Womens Center, a comprehensive resource center, where women can find out where to get the help they need with health, mental health, returning to work, and financial problems.

Tending to the Sick and Elderly

- **Lancaster** obtained a grant to configure a Malta Community Room at St Anne's Retirement Community where local Knights and Dames provide service to the elderly residents..
- **Kansas City members opened a relationship with the Little Sisters of the Poor** Jeanne Jugan Retirement Center attending to and transporting residents to our annual Anointing Service/Mass, assisting with planting/maintaining the Shrine Gardens on the Little Sisters' Campus.
- **The Houston region** meets the first Saturday of each month at the **VA Hospital** in Houston for Mass and to distribute Holy Communion to our Catholic Veterans whom are being treated at the hospital.
- **The Dallas region supports St Paul's Hospital** with five Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist that minister and offer communion every Thursday to all the Catholic patients in the hospital.
- Baltimore members have been involved with the operations and volunteer work at **Shepherd Clinic,** which provides quality health care for the uninsured through the use of volunteer physicians, nurses and others.

Defense of the Faith Activities

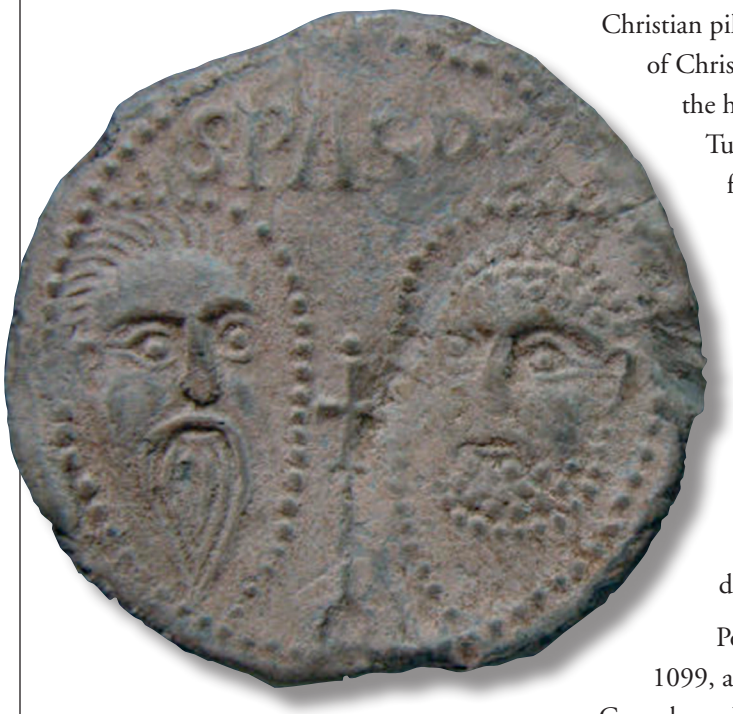
- The Lancaster region celebrated its sixth year of holding a semi-annual Defense of the Faith Series with Mass and lecture. Dr. Marie Hillard spoke about religious liberty, in her address titled "Liberty and Justice for Some." Dr. Trevor Martenson gave a compelling lecture on "Love, Respect and Responsibility: An Explanation of Christianity's Traditional Teaching on Artificial Contraception".
- Syracuse has had Dr. Robert George from Princeton to speak and Dr. Peter Kreeft from Boston College. Over 250 people attended both of these luncheons, which led to some fine discussions regarding matters of faith.
- The Houston region's defense of faith committee sponsored an event at the University of St. Thomas for the defense of marriage. The President of the National Organization for Marriage, Brian S. Brown, was the main speaker at this event and there 200+ in attendance.
- The signature project of the Memphis Region is the Catholic Cafe, a weekly syndicated radio and internet broadcast which teaches the Catholic faith in an engaging, informative manner, and reaches people throughout the world. Back episodes may be heard on the website www.thecatholiccafe.com.
- Additionally, the Memphis region organized and sponsored Friar Fest, a weekend long retreat for teenagers in the Memphis Diocese. Eight Franciscan friars were brought together with 150 Anglo and Hispanic Children, free of charge. The Order also organized a mission in Spanish, which was also led by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal.

The Abiding Significance of PIE POSTULATIO VOLUNTATIS

On February 15, 2013, the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta commemorated the 900th anniversary of its initial papal recognition in the sacred bull of Pope Paschal II, PIE POSTULATIO VOLUNTATIS. In that document the Holy Father set in course the juridical operation of The Order founded in the late eleventh century in Jerusalem by Blessed Brother Gerard. As as Benedictine himself, undoubtedly Pope Paschal appreciated the religious character of Brother Gerard's hospital, and his adherence to a rule modeled after that of the Benedictines and Augustinians.

Although the precise date of the foundation of Brother Gerard's hospital has been lost to history, the institution was a thriving activity by the time of the European Crusaders' arrival in the city in 1099, four short years after Pope Urban II had delivered his inspiring address to the assembled clergy in the Council at Clermont in France. That address, which stirred the continent of Europe to take action in the face of Muslim advances in the Eastern Mediterranean, began the crusading movement that would dominate both papal and political policy in Europe for the next 200 years.

Concerned by growing reports of strife in the Holy Land, molestation of Christian pilgrims, and the reality of Christian vulnerability at the hands of Muslim Seljuk Turk invaders after the fall of the Byzantine army in the Battle of Manzikert in Asia Minor in 1071, Pope Urban articulated the need for an offensive to liberate the Holy Places from control by those who did not believe in the divinity of Jesus Christ.



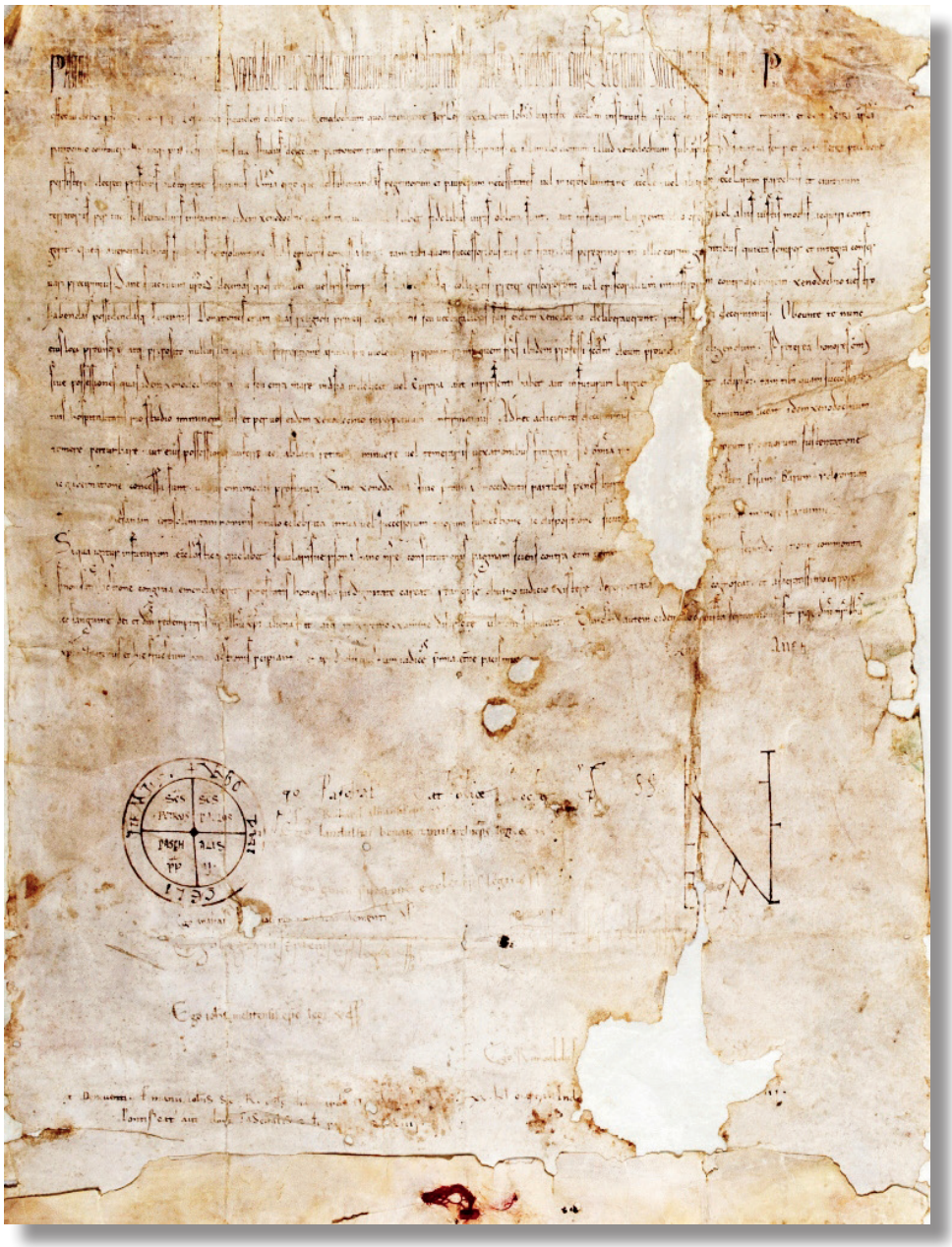
Pope Urban died in 1099, a few weeks after the Crusaders whom he had inspired had liberated the Holy City from Muslim control. At that time the election of Ranierius, a Benedictine monk of the Cluniac tradition, who had been elevated to the College of Cardinals in 1076 under the title of Cardinal Priest of San Clementi in Rome by Saint Gregory VII during the height of the lay investiture controversy, signaled the onset of a strong papacy.

As with his recent predecessors, beginning with Saint Gregory, Pope Paschal faced growing problems with the Christian powers of Europe, a constant impediment to papal support for the Crusades. The lay investiture struggle continued unabated throughout Pope Paschal's long papacy

of eighteen years. His conflict with the Holy Roman Emperor Henry V was as difficult as that of Gregory VII's with his father, Henry IV. He also faced a similar controversy involving lay investiture with King Henry I of England.

In granting the bull of 1113, Pope Paschal not only cemented Brother Gerard's establishment as a religious order of the Church, but also granted it the juridical independence that has made possible the service aspect of its mission to Our Lords, the Poor and the Sick, which has been its hallmark for the past 900 years. His decree established The Order of Saint John as the first of the great crusading orders that characterized medieval piety and fidelity to the papacy, thereby beginning the tradition that survives, indeed thrives, down to our own day.

In his decree Pope Paschal gave The Order an exempt status free of any juridical oversight save that of the Pope himself, the unique character of The Order that was the beginning of its ultimately attaining and maintaining recognition as a sovereign entity. Centuries later, the ecclesiastical independence from all authority save that of the Pope became the basis upon which The Order was able to survive beyond the loss of its territorial possessions at the end of the eighteenth century.



Pope Paschal II remains one of the most significant popes of the Middle Ages. His reign manifested adherence to what today we might think of as modern church-state relations with the Pope supreme in ecclesiastical matters, free from political interference, and concerned directly with the Church's religious mission. During his long reign of eighteen years he steadfastly articulated papal independence from political control, and in that area he prefigured the modern era in which the Church, and The Order of Saint John, which he recognized 900 years ago, could follow the biblical mandates in working for both the spiritual and material betterment of mankind in this life, leading to salvation in the next.

— Henry Lane Hull,
Historian

Federal Association Grants Fund Projects in the US and Abroad

"Be it mine to practice charity toward my neighbors, especially the sick and the poor." With these words the Knight and Dames of the Order of Malta daily reaffirm their commitment to charity, compassion and the unselfish sharing of their talents, treasure and blessings. And so it is that each year the Grants Committee of the Order is grateful to learn of the numerous projects and programs in which members of the Order generously devote hours of service in support of their passion for practicing charity.

During 2012 the Federal Association responded generously and provided $700,000 to forty programs for which Knight and Dames provide hands-on support in soup kitchens, homeless shelters, health-care clinics, programs for the impaired, refurbishing homes… just to name a few of the roles members of the Order play in the provision of assistance to those in need. It is the active involvement of Knights and Dames in these programs that weighed most heavily in the decision to provide financial support through a Federal Association Grant.

Responsiveness to crisis resulting from natural disasters has been an earmark of the Federal Association, with Haiti a now long-standing focus for members of the Order. In 2012 hurricane Sandy devastated many communities along the New York and New Jersey coast. In response to a request from Catholic Charities, the Federal Association Board provided $50,000 in emergency funding to Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Sayreville, New Jersey—assisting 400 families in particular distress in securing much needed items after the destruction of their homes.

Flood waters ravaged Lourdes, France during 2012. Pilgrimage facilities were threatened and many domain structures were impacted. In concert with Malta chapters around the world, the Federal Association Board provided an initial grant of $10,000 to a fund designated for the restoration of these blessed grounds.

Malteser International, an international relief organization of the Order of Malta, brings aid to nations around the world which lack the resources to address the needs of their sick and poor. Annually the Federal Association supports Malteser International efforts with a grant. In 2012 the Federal Association Board provided $50,000 as all three USA-based associations joined in funding the establishment of a Western Hemisphere office in Miami, Florida to better serve Central and South America as well as the Caribbean basin.

The Annual Appeal reflects the generosity of Order members and that generosity provides the resources upon which the Board of Directors and the Grants Committee rely to underwrite funding requests made to the Federal Association. Truly 2012 was a year of collaborative funding…with our sister American associations, with worldwide Malta chapters and with international relief providers, "striving ever to promote God's glory, the world's peace and all that may benefit the Order of St. John of Jerusalem".

The chart included with this report illustrates the many places, programs and purposes that have been enhanced through the generosity of Federal Association members. The Grants Committee believes that each is a testament to the volunteers who facilitate, the board members who guide, the staff who executes and the recipients who graciously accept the gift of caring.

Grants Program–2012

Each initiative deserves to be highlighted; however, the following program speaks well to the fulfillment of the mission to care for the poor and the sick.

St. James Place at the Bishop Sullivan Community Center, Kansas City Missouri is one of the largest producers of emergency assistance in the Kansas City area. Their mission is to provide basic necessities to people who are unable to do so and to move those who are able to become self-sufficient.

Last year St. James Place found itself unable to serve a hot meal to their guests because the kitchen equipment could no longer be relied upon. Knights and Dames of the Kansas City chapter of the Order of Malta, who serve meals at St. James Place, requested funding to replace/repair the failing kitchen equipment. Program Director, Doug Langner, reports "last year (2011) we averaged 280 meals per evening. Replacing our old kitchen equipment was a blessing. When it would break down we could only serve packaged meals to our clients instead of a hot meal. This year… we received the Health Department's highest award for food safety and handling. And, we are on pace to serve 7500 meals in 2012. Thank you for assisting with the funding that made it possible."

When asked what one hot meal means to you, clients Jeanette and Steve (a husband and wife in their 30's going through a rough stretch of their lives) responded "This meal means we have 'dignity'. We don't have to look for food out of a dumpster. We can come here and know we are in a safe place."

— Barbara Laughlin
Chair, Grants Committee

Domestic Programs – 2012

Baltimore, MD	My Sister's Place	2 large capacity, high-efficiency washers/dryers
Baltimore, MD	Shepherd's Clinic	Medical equipment, new security system
Baltimore, MD	St. Agnes Hospital	Multi-media equipment for chapel
Baltimore, MD	Little Sisters of the Poor	Spa tub transfer chair
Chicago, IL	Catholic Charities	Truck to transport food to soup kitchens
Chicago, IL	Mission of Our Lady of the Angels	Furniture and cleaning equipment
Dallas, TX	Natural Family Planning Center	Educational supplies
Gaithersburg, MD	Mercy Health Clinic	Medicines, clinic expansion
Hartford, CT	Malta House of Care	Diabetes meds and supplies
Jacksonville, FL	St. Vincent Hospital	Furnishings for Alzheimer's / Dementia Clinic
Kansas City, MO	Bishop Sullivan Center	Furnishings for kitchen and food pantry
Kansas City, MO	Christmas in October	Supplies for roof repair or replacement on 20 homes
Kansas City, MO	Little Sisters of the Poor	Alternating pressure mattresses, wheelchair scale, vital sign monitors, and hearing aids
Lancaster, PA	St. Anne's Retirement Community	Renovate community room and kitchen
Lancaster, PA	St. Anne's Catholic Church	Milk cooler for carry-out lunch program
Lancaster, PA	San Juan Bautista Community Center	Furnishings for thrift shop
Lawrence, KS	Lawrence Community Shelter	Security equipment
Memphis, TN	Autism Society Angel Program	Software for teaching program
New Orleans, LA	Catholic Charities	Hurricane relief
Pittsburgh, PA	UPMC Mercy Hospital	Indigent patient center
Pittsburgh, PA	Rebuilding Together	Home repairs ("House Sponsor")
Potomac, MD	Potomac Community Resources	Programs for developmentally disabled
Silver Spring, MD	St. Luke Institute	Medical program for priests
Springfield, IL	Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach	Forklift and warehouse supplies
St. Joseph, MO	Community Missions	Roof repair, HVAC system, beds and water softener
Syracuse, NY	Welch Terrace Apartments	Privacy protection for patients with HIV/AIDS
Towson, MD	Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart	Wheelchair van for elderly and infirm sisters
Washington, DC	National Catholic Partnership on Disability	Video training and print resources
Washington, DC	Fr. McKenna Center	Renovation and expansion of kitchen
Washington, DC	Spanish Catholic Center	Upgrades for medical clinic and dispensary

International Programs—2012

Congo	Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach	Medical supplies
Dominican Republic	Medicines for Humanity	Medicines and vitamins
El Salvador	Maryknoll Lay Missioners	Soy and Health Program
Guatemala	Medicines for Humanity	Medicines and vitamins
Haiti	Medicines for Humanity	Medicines and vitamins
Honduras	Catholic Medical Mission Board	Diabetes testing strips, training program
Nicaragua	Cristos Sanos/Order of Malta Medical Mission	Repairs on eye surgery equipment
Palestine	Holy Family Hospital	Medical van for mobile outreach

Defense of the Faith Programs and Funding Activities

The Defense of the Faith Committee assists knights and dames to fulfill the promise they make in the Daily Prayer of the Order: Be it mine to practice and defend the Catholic, the Apostolic, the Roman faith against the enemies of religion.

In 2012, educating knights and dames about their Catholic faith and about contemporary challenges to it was a primary activity of the Defense of the Faith Committee. In addition, the Committee supported member-sponsored Catholic organizations which promote and defend the Catholic faith, and sponsored an essay contest to stimulate college students to think about what their faith means to them while introducing the students to the Order of Malta.

Education

The committee produces two educational programs each year for the entire membership. The spring program of general faith education is designed to inform and strengthen the faith of members in the many regions where they reside. The fall program during Investiture Weekend in Washington, DC, aims to educate members about a contemporary issue which is challenging Catholic beliefs and practices.

The fall program, presented by Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore on "Challenges Facing Catholics in America Today," took place on Friday, October 19, in Washington, DC. Approximately 275 knights and dames attended. Archbishop Lori discussed the threats to religious liberty currently facing the Church and its charitable works from a general widespread secularization in society, with a resulting lessening of regard and understanding of religiously motivated social action, and more specific challenges as exemplified by the contraceptive insurance mandate proposed by the Department of Health and Human Services and the redefinition of family and marriage that affects Church social services such as adoption services. A podcast of the Defense of the Faith Forum is available on the Federal Association's website along with podcasts of past fall programs.

In spring 2012 the committee distributed to members 900 copies of Cardinal Wuerl's new book, *Seek First the Kingdom,* a roadmap for lay persons on defending the faith in American culture. The Defense of the Faith committee issued email alerts to members, principally at the request of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), to inform members about particular challenges to Catholic beliefs and practices, so that they as individuals could give effective personal witness to their faith in whatever way they deem appropriate.

Grants

Between January 2012 and January 2013, the Committee recommended six grants applications for approval by the Association's board of directors. Five of these grants were either $5000 or $10,000. While the committee ordinarily limits grants to $10,000 or less, in 2012 an urgent request by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to all three U.S. associations of the Order prompted the committee to recommend that the association renew its grant of $50,000 in Defense of the Faith funds to the USCCB for the bishops' new Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Liberty. This committee advises church leaders as they strive to defend the constitutional right to religious liberty presently under attack in federal and state governments. Comprised of several bishops and distinguished expert consultants, the committee includes two members of the Federal Association. It will consider government actions in light of constitutionally-protected rights, will conduct campaigns to inform the public, and will advocate in legislatures for the restoration of religious liberties.

— Philip Ward

Chair, Defense of the Faith Committee

FOCUS Essay Contest

"What you are is God's gift to you; what you become is your gift to God." The Defense of the Faith Committee used this quote from the Catholic theologian Hans Urs von Balthazar to break new ground by introducing an essay contest for college students in partnership with the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS). Students were asked to write a 500–1000 word essay on the question, 'Describe a pivotal point in your faith life when you realized you were a gift from God. How are you trying to become a gift to Him?"

The contest was announced in October over the FOCUS website and by email to over 25,000 college students on 85 Catholic and secular college campuses in the U.S. The website announcement received over 7,500 hits, the most that FOCUS has ever had. The logo of the Order and the official description of the Order and its work accompanied the announcement.

Over 100 essays were submitted. FOCUS posted the top eight on its website, so other students could read and vote on them. The Defense of the Faith Committee took student voting into account in deciding the winners, but also looked for stories of transformation and recommitment as well as different approaches to the question and ability to inspire other students.

Four college students were declared winners and awarded cash prizes. First prize went to Raquel Kato Greely of the University of Colorado for her essay "I'm That Girl—That Girl That Got Pregnant." Raquel wrote: *"That day, God gave me the grace to feel His presence…For the first time in over a month of depression and turmoil and shame, I felt loved—in the midst of my brokenness. I realized that God gifted me not only with my life, but also entrusted to me the life growing inside me….By the grace of God alone, I cancelled my abortion."w*

The winning essays were posted on the FOCUS blog after the awards are made.

Washington, DC	**FOCUS—**$10,000 for support of FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) team at George Washington University and for launching teams at University of Virginia and the University of Mary Washington
Dallas, TX	**Catholic Pro-Life Center of North Texas—**$10,000 to provide underwriting for the third Hispanic Congress of the Americas for Respect Life and Evangelization
Columbus, OH	**Dead Theologians Society—**$10,000 for to train and support chapter leaders, update printed resource materials, and update their website which is used by parish youth coordinators around the country.
Washington, DC	**Guadalupe Radio Network—**$5,000 for the English and Spanish language, non-profit, Catholic radio station
National	***Seek First the Kingdom*—**$13,000 for the production and distribution to Cardinal Donald Wuerl's book, *Seek First the Kingdom: Challenging the Culture by Living Our Faith.* A copy of the book was sent to all members and chaplains of the Association.
National	**USCCB's Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Freedom—**$50,000 to support the national program organized by the US Catholic Bishops to combat the efforts to reduce religious liberty in the U.S.
National	**Defense of the Faith Essay Contest—**$3,000 for prize money for national essay contest. Over 100 students submitted essays to contest sponsored by the Federal Association.
National	**Prison Ministry Program—**$5,000 to produce and distribute Catholic Bibles to inmates in Washington, DC, Chicago, and Kansas City.

Lourdes Pilgrimage–2012

On May 3 the Federal Association contingent of nearly 300 Knights, Dames, candidates, chaplains, auxiliary, malades and their companions landed in France to participate in the Order of Malta's annual Lourdes Pilgrimage. Most of the pilgrims flew from Baltimore on the charter aircraft and were greeted upon arrival by a dozen members of the Advance Team. This is a group of Knights and Dames who arrive a few days early to make sure the hotel rooms are set and to secure the voitures or carts used to transport the maladies.

Leading the group was the Association's Principal Chaplain, His Eminence Donald Cardinal Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington. The Cardinal was engaged in every aspect of the pilgrimage for the days he was able to be with us—the Opening Mass for the three U.S. Associations, the Healing Mass, and the Candlelight Procession. Generous with his time, he had a smile and kind word for everyone, and his presence was a special blessing for the group.

Before every activity the group gathered in the cramped, semi-covered carport behind the hotel. There 300 hundred people walked purposefully in every direction, assembling 50 voitures with malades. With a steady rain falling during many mornings, first time pilgrims doubted this would ever work. Yet each time, everyone was lined up, out the door, and at the venue right on time. Some thought this was a miracle while others attributed it to the decades of experience and calm presence of the six Team Leaders whose job was to keep the 40–45 people on their team healthy, happy, in line, and on time throughout the week.

After being in or very near the Domaine, the sacred area where the Grotto, Rosary Basilica, and other venues are located, for the first four days, the group visited the "upper town" of Lourdes.

On Tuesday, our last day in Lourdes, we celebrated Mass in St. Joseph's Chapel. After being with huge crowds in enormous venues all week, this intimate setting with just our group was a special way to end the spiritual week. That spirit of fellowship took a different shape on Tuesday night during our farewell banquet—an evening of laughter, song, and, maybe, a tear or two.

2012 Pilgrimage Leaders

Lindsay Gallagher (Baltimore), Chair
Rev. Msgr. Edward Dillon (Atlanta)—Chaplain
Dr. Harry Johnson (Baltimore)—Medical Director
Joan Cincotta (Syracuse)—Chief Nurse
John Hoy (Lower Gwynedd, PA)—Hospitaller
Tom Fink (Wash DC)—Red Team Leader
Craig Jarchow (Greenwich, CT)—Orange Team Leader
Jeff Ludwig (Dunkirk, MD)—Blue Team Leader
Dr. Teryl White (Sterling, VA)—Gold Team Leader
Pat Monaghan (Hunt Valley, MD)—Green Team Leader
Collins Whitfield (Chicago)—Purple Team Leader

The Blessed Gerard Society

The Blessed Gerard Society was established in 1998 as a way of recognizing the members of the Order who have included the Order of Malta in their will or other estate planning. In this manner, our members ensure that the Federal Association will continue to perform the work of the Order. Knights and Dames of Malta have been sustaining the Order and its works in this manner for centuries, and it remains an important way of perpetuating the tradition, and more importantly, the noble work of the Order.

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May They Rest in Peace

These members have died since the publication of the last Annual Report

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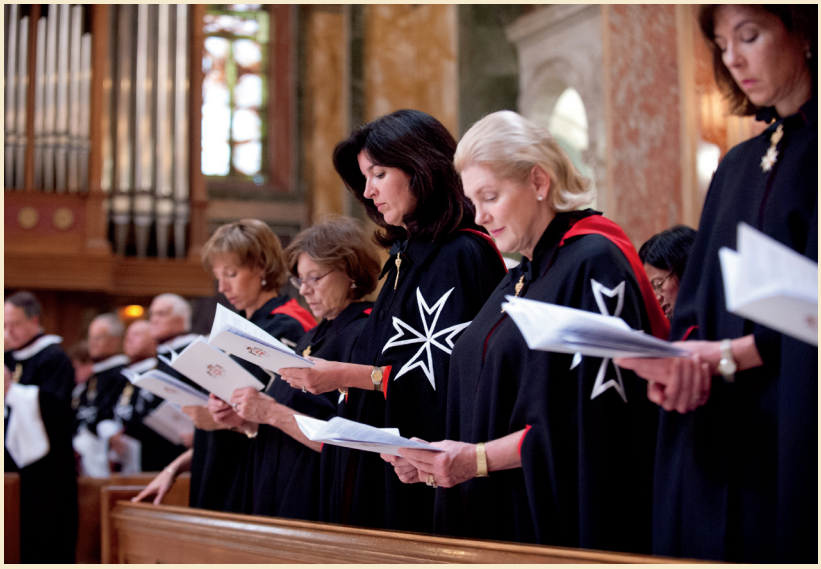

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J. Paul McNamara—Grand Cross of Magistral Grace

The Order of Merit *Pro Merito Melitensi*

William E. Battle, M.D.—Cross of Merit

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